

LIVES OF MANY  
ARE SACRIFICED  
IN FOREST FIRES  
SWEEPING WEST

**Party of 180 Lumbermen Missing, and It Is Feared They Have Perished.**

## COMPLETE LIST OF VICTIMS MAY NEVER BE KNOWN

Mercilessly the Flames Sweep  
.. On, Consuming Towns, Taking  
Their Toll in Lives and Wiping  
Millions of Dollars' Worth of  
Property Out of Existence.  
All Efforts to Check Holocaust  
Are Futile, and Condition Now  
Is Worse Than It Ever Has  
Been—Hundreds of Fugitives  
Are Driven From Their Homes.

**24 Dead; 25 Injured**

Wallace, Idaho, August 21.—Twenty-four dead and twenty-five injured, beside a number suffering from being overcome by smoke, is the record thus far of the forest fire which destroyed half of the town, and still is raging.

Missoula, Mont., August 21.—Mercilessly and relentlessly the forest fires in Western Montana and Idaho are sweeping over a vast area, driving hundreds of fugitives before them in small settlements and wiping out of existence millions of dollars' worth of property.

The situation to-night is more serious than it was in the early morning, except as to Wallace, Idaho where it is believed that nearly half of the city will be saved. West of there a hard fight is being made, and with no improvement in the water supply there is more chance that the flames be driven back. For a few minutes this afternoon the Daily Missoulian's reporter at Wallace had a wire. He summarised the situation as follows:

Thirteen lives have been lost, the property loss is one million, and the fire is still threatening.

Elsewhere in the fire zone the situation has gone from bad to worse. The most serious incident is reported from the St. Joe country, where 180 men engaged in the forestry service are missing and it is feared they have been burned. When the fire appeared at the camp where there were 200 men, two of the fighters took a horse and, riding the animal to death, reached another camp and ordered a rescue party, which penetrated the fire at Bird Creek.

Eighteen of the men were found in the water where they had gone for safety, and they were unharmed. Of the remaining 180 no word has been received. The forestry service has organized a relief train well equipped with pack animals, carrying provisions and hospital supplies, and will endeavor to get through the fire.

About a thousand refugees have been brought into Missoula to-day. There is much distress among them. Their wants are being supplied by Missoula people, and they have been given temporary homes. Local hospitals are caring for the sick.

Another train with 500 persons on board is expected over the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound Railway.

A dense pall of smoke hangs over all Eastern Montana. In Missoula it was as dark as midnight at 5 o'clock, the dense smoke giving a lurid hue which had all the semblance of the glow of fire, but which was probably due to the sun.

**Town of Taft Destroyed.**  
The town of Taft was destroyed by fire before daylight this morning. Saltese, just below Taft, has been abandoned by its inhabitants, and Deborgis is threatened, and one man is missing. At St. Regis the fire has crossed the river and threatens outlying buildings. Haughan is reported to be deserted. The area covered is roughly estimated at a hundred miles square.

There is a probability that there has been serious loss of life, as there are camping parties and lumbermen all through the mountains, and the fire may have come upon them while they slept last night, or they may have been awakened this morning to find themselves cut off.

Camas Prairie, a farming valley is the Blackfoot country, is the scene of a serious conflagration to-night.

A courier arrived here to-night with an appeal for aid. From Bonner fire

There will be almost continuous showers in the Southeastern States. During last week temperatures slightly below the normal ruled throughout the country, and there were light frosts in the extreme Northwest.

So far as he consistently can do so, the President will endeavor to placate all factions of the party. He believes the party already is moving ahead, and he wants all of its members to "pull

It is not believed, however, that an  
 exitation by Japan will involve distur-  
 bances in any section of Korea, which

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